IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

Shiqekazu YASUOKA et al.

Serial Number: Not yet assigned Examiner: Not yet assigned

Filed: December 24, 2003 Art Unit: Not yet assigned

For: HYDROGEN ABSORBING ALLOY FOR ALKALINE STORAGE BATTERY

CLAIM TO PRIORITY UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 119

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

December 24, 2003

Sir:

The benefit of the filing date of each of the following prior foreign applications is hereby requested for the above-identified application, and the priority provided in 35 U.S.C. § 119 is hereby claimed:

Japanese Patent Application No. 2002-374140, filed December 25, 2002 and

Japanese Patent Application No. 2003-373873, filed November 4, 2003 In the event any fees are required, please charge our Deposit Account No. 111833.

Respectfully submitted,

KUBOVCIK & KUBOVCIK

Keiko Tanaka Kubovcik

Reg. No. 40,428

Atty. Case No. SNY-048 The Farragut Building Suite 710 900 17th Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20006 (202) 887-9023 Tel: (202) 887-9093 Fax: KTK/jbf